Mahoba-Khajuraho and Lalitpur-Satna rail lines

†*272. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to his Ministry regarding the completion of railway line from Mahoba to Khajuraho and Lalitpur to Satna;

(b) if so, the progress made, so far in this regard; and

(c) by when this railway line is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh has requested for early completion of railway line from Mahoba to Khajuraho and Lalitpur to Satna *via* Khajuraho.

(b) and (c) On Mahoba-Khajuraho section minor bridge, major bridge, supply of ballast completed and track linking taken up. The section is targeted for completion during 2007-08. On Lalitpur to Satna section, land acquisition, earthwork bridgework has been taken up on Lalitpur-Mawaikhas-Khajuraho part. On the balance portion i.e. from Khajuraho to Satna, the alignment near Panna Station is passing close to the reserve forest area of Panna Reserve Forest for which the clearance of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is awaited. No target has been fixed for the section.

Amendment of the Consumer Protection Act

*273. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) if so, the essential features of the proposed amendments;

(c) whether consumer forums below the level of districts are proposed by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal seeks to further amend the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, which would widen the scope of various provisions of the Act to make them more effective; to facilitate quicker disposal of complaints; to enhance the capability of the redressal fora; to strengthen or clarifying the powers of the redressal fora; to streamline the procedures; and to bring clarity in certain provisions.

(c) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.